

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

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INFO CINCPAC HONLUULU HI

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PGOV PINT JA

SUBJ: UPPER HOUSE ELECTS OFFICERS JULY 26

1. NEWLY ELECTED UPPER HOUSE MOVED TO END DELAY IN ORGANIZING ITSELF BY REELECTING KENZO KONO PRESIDENT, AND KAZUO MAEDA VICE PRESIDENT IN LATE NIGHT SESSION JULY 26. THIS PROCEDURAL MATTER WAS HELD UP BY PRIOR NEED TO FIX DURATION OF CURRENT POST-ELECTION EXTRAORDINARY SESSION OF DIET (REFTEL).

2. KONO WON REELECTION EASILY WITH MULTI-PARTISAN SUPPORT, RECEIVING 228 OF 251 BALLOTS CAST. TWO VOTES WERE CAST FOR KAZUO TAMAKI (LDP), AND ONE EACH FOR SHIRO KIUCHI (LDP), MASATOSHI KUSUNOKI (LDP) AND SANSHICHI HANNYU (JSP). EIGHTEEN BLANK BALLOTS WERE CAST.

3. KAZUO MAEDA (LDP) WAS ELECTED VICE PRESIDENT WITH 127 OF 250 BALLOTS CAST. (AS PRESIDING OFFICER KONO DID NOT VOTE.) OPPOSITION CANDIDATE SANSHICHI HANNYU GOT 120 VOTES. TWO BLANK BALLOTS WERE CAST.

4. ACCORDING TO LDP SOURCES, BLANK BALLOTS IN PRESIDENTIAL

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ELECTION WERE CAST BY LDP DISSIDENTS (MOSTLY AFFILIATED WITH

FUKUDA FACTION) WHO TOOK ADVANTAGE OF FACT THAT KONO RAN VIRTUALLY UNOPPOSED TO EXPRESS DISSATISFACTION WITH PRIMIN TANAKA'S LEADERSHIP OF PARTY. TRIO OF SEIRANKAI MEMBERS IN FUKUDA CAMP ALSO MADE ANTI-TANAKA GESTURE BY VOTING FOR EACH OTHER. HOWEVER, ALL BUT TWO DISSIDENTS HEWED TO PARTY LINE TO ENSURE ELECTION OF LDP CANDIDATE MAEDA, IN CLOSE VOTE ALONG PARTY LINES WHICH FOLLOWED.

5. COMMENT: ELECTION OF OFFICERS CLEARED WAY JULY 29 FOR FORMAL NAMING OF NEW CHAIRMEN AND MEMBERS OF VARIOUS UPPER HOUSE COMMITTEES AND FOR FORMAL OPENING CEREMONY WHICH HAD BEEN POSTPONED SINCE CONVOCAION OF CURRENT SESSION JULY 24. BECAUSE ADJOURNMENT HAS NOW BEEN FIXED FOR JULY 31, NO SUBSTANTIVE BUSINESS CAN BE TRANSACTED THIS SESSION. ALTHOUGH OPPOSITION AND SOME ELEMENTS WITHIN LDP ARE STILL VIGOROUSLY DEMANDING THAT PRIMIN TANAKA DELIVER CUSTOMARY POLICY SPEECH OR RESPOND TO INTERPELLATION FROM FLOOR, IT IS VERY UNLIKELY TANAKA WILL YIELD TO THESE DEMANDS. END COMMENT.
HODGSON

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